

Communications.

Rhogas Kitcheneri, n. sp.

A new Braconid destructive to the Egyptian Cotton Boll Worm

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Light yellowish brown. Head broader than long; eyes and ocelli prominent, both, and sometimes also the back of the head, black; whole thorax above light yellowish brown with a large dark patch on the mesosternum below and sometimes with the tegulae and median segment dark brown; abdomen light yellowish brown, smooth and rounded towards the extremity; the three or four terminal segments dark brown; ovipositor sheath dark brown. Legs yellowish brown with the terminal tarsi dark brown. Antennae dark brown with 21 joints covered with light pubescence. Both wings infuscated from the base to beyond the middle. Second cubital cell short and trapezoid, slightly smaller than the first.

Length 2.25 mm.

Expanse 5 mm.

Forewing 2.25 mm. \pm 1 mm.

Ovipositor sheath .. 5 mm.

This species differs from *Rhogas Lefroyi* in having the wings infuscated for a portion of their length, the third cubital cell shorter instead of longer than the second, the abdomen without the black spot on the dorsal part of the third, fourth and fifth

segments, the extremity rounded instead of attenuated, and dark brown instead of lighter, the ovipositor much shorter and the measurements differently proportioned. The measurements of *Rhogas Lefroyi* are given for comparison (taken from Indian specimens).

Length.....	3	mm.
Expanse.....	6.0 to 6.5	mm.
Forewing....	2.75 to 3	mm. \times 1 mm.
Ovipositor...	1.5	mm.

This insect is parasitic on the Egyptian Boll-worm and has as yet been found only in Beni-Souef, where, however, it is as abundant as the allied species is in India. The first specimens were bred out of larvæ of Egyptian Boll-worm in the Department Laboratories on the 16th October 1912, since when two or three have emerged almost every day. There is no doubt that this species would be as effective in the control of Egyptian insects as *Rhogas Lefroyi* has proved in India and it has the advantage over the latter species with respect to Egypt in that it is indigenous and does not require acclimatisation.

In common with other Braconidæ this insect deposits its eggs in the larvæ of the host insect. The larvæ of the parasite emerge from the host larva and pupate outside in small ovoid silken cocoons, generally found associated with the dead larva of the host.

The insect which we describe here we have named after His Excellency Lord Kitchener of Khartoum who has taken such a great interest in the economic entomological problems which are being examined by the Egyptian Department of Agriculture.